

10 Enter the aviation profession and give back to the next generation of cadets



9 Compete for ROTC and Service Academy appointments; check out the University Aviation Association, uaa.aero; and also apply for the **CAP College Scholarship Program**



8 Compete for the elite **Cadet Wings** program, which covers expenses leading to a Private Pilot license; you'll want to have earned your **Mitchell Award** to be competitive



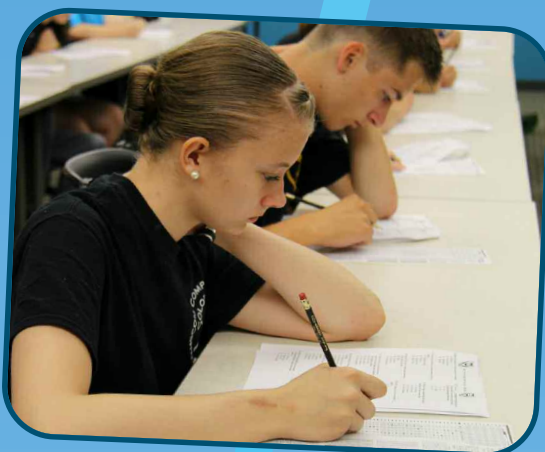
7 Explore an aviation or STEM career at an NCSA; compete for the **Lift Program** to get help with expenses, if needed; try to earn the **Mitchell Award** by the end of your second cadet year



6 Attend a cadet flight academy and fly solo; compete for the **Take-Off Program** to get help with expenses



5 Go to encampment and interact with the Air Force; apply for **CEAP** funds to get help with tuition and uniforms, if needed



4 Study and advance through the cadet aerospace texts; try to earn the **Wright Brothers Award** by the end of your first cadet year



3 Take the controls during your first orientation flight - they're always free to cadets



Shawna "Lex" Kimbrell
1st Female African-American
Fighter Pilot



Eric Boe
Astronaut



Nicole Malachowski
1st Female
Thunderbird Pilot

the CADET FLIGHT PLAN for AVIATION CAREERS

DETAILS @
GoCivilAirPatrol.com/Scholarships

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Cadet Encampment Assistance Program	Need-based program helping cadets with tuition and uniform expenses; priority given to first-year cadets
Take-Off Program	Merit-based program supporting cadets at week-long powered and glider flight academies, possibly leading to solo flight
Lift Program	Need-based program supporting cadets at week-long career explorations (NCSAs)
Cadet Wings Program	Merit-based program for cadets pursuing a private pilot certificate; ultra-competitive... the jewel of cadet life
College Scholarship Program	Merit-based program supporting cadet education at colleges and career schools

FIRST CADET YEAR

Join CAP between ages 12 and 18, participate in a weekly squadron meeting (2 hrs), one "Saturday" activity per month, and a 1-week overnight activity each summer. Out of pocket expenses average \$300 to \$600 annually, but financial assistance is often available.

Read about the fundamentals of aerospace science - airfoils, engines, navigation, weather, etc. as you advance through a system of achievements designed to transform you into a "dynamic American and aerospace leader."

Learn from a mentor and through hands-on activities. CAP's adult volunteers include many pilots and STEM experts. Make friends with other air-minded youth who'll provide peer support during your journey.

Take the controls during an orientation flight in a single-engine aircraft or glider. You won't merely fly over your house, you'll progress through a syllabus, where each flight focuses on a different theme that reinforces what you've studied in the textbooks. Cadets sometimes are privileged to receive orientation flights in military aircraft or even balloons.

Attend a week-long, overnight encampment for an immersion into the full challenges and opportunities of cadet life. Interact with Air Force and aviation professionals as you explore a variety of aviation and STEM-related careers through tours and activities in the control tower, at the engine shop, or aboard a flight simulator.* Develop leadership skills to prepare for success in adult life. **CEAP** funds can help get you there.

* Activities vary based on host facility resources

SECOND CADET YEAR

Begin formal flight training in a single-engine or glider aircraft during a week-long flight academy, a cadets-only environment where the instructors are specially prepared to lead young aviators toward their first solo flight. Selection for CAP flight academies is competitive, so you'll need to have been participating in your squadron and ranking-up to earn a slot. The **Take-Off Program** can help with your expenses.

Test-fly an aviation, space, or technical career field at a National Cadet Special Activity. While the encampment introduced you to the aerospace field at large, each NCSA concentrates on a single career field. You can explore a career in military aviation, engineering, aircraft manufacturing, space operations, cyber defense and other opportunities. Again, the selection process is competitive, so stay active in your squadron and rank-up as a cadet. The **Lift Program** can help with your expenses.

THIRD CADET YEAR & BEYOND

Leverage your cadet experience as you enter college or the workforce. CAP offers college scholarships and the **Cadet Wings** program can help with training that leads to a private pilot's license.

If you're considering military service, the service academies and ROTC (especially USAFA and AFROTC) look favorably upon cadets who have worked hard in CAP and earned the Billy Mitchell Award. About 8% of USAF Academy cadets got their start in CAP, and CAP cadets have a special avenue for an USAFA appointment through our USAFA Preparatory School program. Finally, if you enlist in the Air Force and have earned the Mitchell Award as a cadet, you'll be promoted to Airman First Class (E-3) after completing Basic Training.



2 Learn aerospace basics at weekly squadron meetings; ask which STEM kits are available



1 Enter the Cadet Program between ages 12 and 18

START HERE